

Stage and Music—

The Season's Picking Up

By Henry Butler

The Ballet Theater, the Circle Players, the Booth Tarkington Civic and Jordan College of Music will contribute to this week's live-show fare.

The Ballet tourists will visit Purdue's Hall of Music tomorrow and Tuesday evenings, doing a graceful leap down to Bloomington Wednesday for a program in Indiana University auditorium.

Here in town, the Circle Players will open their arena-style production of "Come Back, Little Sheba" Thursday evening in the Antlers Hotel ballroom.

Julius Huehn's Jordan opera department Friday evening will start a two-day bill of scenes from opera in the Odeon, 106 E. North St.

Also Friday, Jack L. Hatfield's Civic players will start their January production, John Patrick's "The Curious Savage," which will run through Jan. 19.

Before we go on to program details, here's another reminder that Edward G. Robinson and touring company will visit the Murat in Sidney Kingsley's powerful play about Soviet Russia, "Darkness at Noon," Jan. 24 through 26, with a matinee that latter date.

And though no contract had been signed as of this writing, the Murat management are expecting Olivia de Havilland & Co. to move in with Shaw's "Candida" for a three-day sojourn starting Jan. 31.

THE BALLET THEATER, back from a four-month tour of Europe, will give three partly different programs in their Indiana visit. Tomorrow at Purdue, they've scheduled Act II of "Swan Lake," starring Alicia Alonso and Igor Youskevich; "The Young Man and Death" ("Le jeune homme et la mort"), with Jean Bablee and Nathalie Philippart; and "Bluebeard," with Lucia Chase, John Kriza and Mary Ellen Moylan.

Their Tuesday program at Purdue will start with "Constantia," starring Miss Moylan, Eric Bruhn and Norman Vance; "Rodeo," Agnes de Mille's famous ballet, with John Kriza and Ruth Ann Koeun; "The Eulenspiegel," with Mr. Bablee and Miss Koeun, and "Theme and Variations," with Miss Alonso and Mr. Youskevich.

At IU Wednesday, the company will perform "Rodeo," "L'Amour et son amour" and "Theme and Variations."

A few university-circuit reminders will close this section: Vronsky and Babine, duo-pianists, will visit Purdue Jan. 18, followed by De Pauw's Infantry Chorus, Feb. 9, and the Philadelphia Orchestra Feb. 29, among important musical events on the Purdue Convocations series.

On the IU auditorium series, the next major musical event is the Feb. 13 visit of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, with Ljuba Welitch, soprano soloist.

THE CIRCLE PLAYERS, again tackling a serious and substantial play, will open "Come Back, Little Sheba" Thursday in their new-familiar location at the Antlers. This study of pathos in the life of a middle-aged woman whose little dog Sheba has been a comfort, while her alcoholic husband has been a constant

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1—Fondle
- 4—Shedding
- 5—Everyone
- 12—Beverage
- 13—Waterfall
- 14—Observe
- 15—Sweet potatoes
- 17—Studied closely
- 21—Period of time
- 22—Freshman
- 24—Smooth
- 26—Tensile strength
- 27—Atmosphere
- 29—Period of duration

DOWN

- 21—Prepare for print
- 22—Down in detail
- 23—Cylindrical
- 24—Bureau road
- 25—Comfort
- 26—High mountain
- 41—Sensor (abbr.)
- 42—Apocryphal
- 43—Starving
- 44—Trips out
- 45—Blinding insect
- 47—Adhesive substance
- 49—
- 50—Finishes
- 51—Tortle
- 52—Household gods
- 53—Before
- 54—Organ of sight
- 55—Vapor
- 61—Change color of

ANSWERS

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STAGE AND DANCE—Personalities who will strut and fret their hour upon the stage (Shakespeare) in near future will include (left) Edward G. Robinson and Leo Gordon in "Darkness at Noon," Sidney Kingsley drama opening Jan. 24 at the Murat; (insert) Ida Mae Miller, one of the principals in Julius Huehn's Jordan College program of opera scenes at the Odeon next Friday and Saturday, and Alicia Alonso and Igor Youskevich, two stars of the Ballet Theater company, who will visit Purdue University tomorrow and Tuesday, Indiana University Wednesday.

The Bard Gets the Best of It

By TOM DONNELLY

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—To the consternation of some, Laurence Olivier is playing Caesar, in Shaw's celebrated "Caesar and Cleopatra," as a dehydrated old gaffer, all creaking joints and philosophical resignation.

There have been accusations that Sir Laurence is altering Shaw's intention and draining the play of a shocking measure of its hilarity. Since Shaw has imagined a Caesar of his own, in defiance of the facts of history, and since he has insisted upon ruling out of his play any trace of sexual abandon, it seems to me that Olivier has a perfect right to take him at his word and offer a Caesar to fit the many references to antiquity which abound in the play.

After all, from the very first Cleopatra refers to the Roman conqueror as "Old Gentleman," and there is a great deal of talk here and there, about his general decrepitude.

AS FOR the notion that Sir Laurence's acting approach is responsible for a lot of built-in buffoonery getting lost in the shuffle, I am afraid that this is just one of those critical delusions. Actually, Shaw has not provided his Caesar with the wherewithal to stir up a riot of laughs.

The lines allow for an easy flow of gentle smiles, punctuated occasionally by such snappy exchanges as the one wherein Cleopatra's nurse demands, "Who pronounces the name of Pata-teeta?" and is informed by Caesar that nobody can pronounce it. I dare say that an actual count on the laugh meter would prove that Sir Laurence scores as many bullseyes as any of his predecessors in the role. I had remembered Claude Rains' interpretation, in the film, as a work of genius, and was considerably unsettled to discover, upon reinspection, that Olivier's realistic approach is too heavy for Shaw's comedy, but that Shaw's comedy is too frail to bear the weight of Olivier's realism. I have not, as you might suspect, completely turned on the play. But I do think that Cleopatra is the big role, and that Caesar is merely Shaw's straight man.

If Olivier's impersonations is, no matter what else you can say about it, an individual one, the rest of the performance is strictly Queen's "nurse demands." One has the feeling that no one concerned had any ideas, really, about Shaw.

The Shakespeare is in glittering contrast. Here is a magnificent realization of "Antony and Cleopatra." Roger Furse's settings, at once spare and opulent, and mounted on a turntable, allow for an interpretation that has speed, grace and a dazzling intensity. The scattered bits and pieces of the play have been



Mae Miller, one of the principals in Julius Huehn's Jordan College program of opera scenes at the Odeon next Friday and Saturday, and Alicia Alonso and Igor Youskevich, two stars of the Ballet Theater company, who will visit Purdue University tomorrow and Tuesday, Indiana University Wednesday.

Sulphur in Diet Found To Aid Wounds Heal

CHICAGO, (UP)—Wounds heal faster when certain key substances are present in the diet, according to Dr. Martin B. Williamson, associate professor of biochemistry at Loyola University medical school.

Dr. Williamson told the American Chemical Society's Chicago section that diet experiments have shown that certain sulphur compounds in food are necessary for a maximum healing rate.

The compounds are sulphur amino acids, which occur in the proteins of eggs, milk, wheat, corn and some other foods, Williamson said.

In tests he conducted on experimental animals, Williamson said the healing rate was much higher when a high protein diet was given.

However, the addition of sulphur amino acids to a low protein diet achieved much the same healing rate, he said.

All in all, quite a show.

TV Sets Dime A Dozen At Air Force Base

PRESCOTT ISLE, Me. (UP)—Television sets are just articles of furniture at Presque Isle Air Force base but there are scores of them in the homes of airmen and officers.

The transfer rate at the base is high and many of the officers and men bought sets when they were in TV centers and had them shipped with other furniture when they moved here.

Not a picture shows on the screens. The nearest TV station is 350 miles away at Boston.

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Remember 'Wings?' It Won the First Oscar

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 5 (UP)—In about three months, all Hollywood will get dolled up in its best and crowd into the Pantages Theater to give out the movie industry's "Oscars" for the 24th year.

This is the time of year when most people in the industry busy themselves trying to guess who will win the golden statuettes. A safer and easier—pastime is to recall some of the things that have happened in past years.

The first "Oscars" were given out on May 6, 1929, but they were called statuettes.

The name "Oscar" did not come until a couple of years later when Margaret Herrick reported for work as librarian of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and remarked that the statue reminded her of "my uncle Oscar," who was not really her uncle anyway.

That first year, only 11 awards were handed out. It's a slim year now when the total is not more than three times that high.

First winners of the statuettes were the Paramount picture, "Wings," Janet Gaynor, for her role in "Seventh Heaven," and Emil Jannings for his leading role in "The Way of All Flesh." There were no awards then for the best supporting actor and actress.

Since that day, 411 of the golden knights have been given away, some to stand on their own merits, others (so legend says) to be used as door stops and still others to wind up in pawn shops.

Writers have won more "Oscars" than any other single group. Seventy "Oscars" have gone to the wordsmiths, with art directors and cameramen sharing runner-up honors with 38.

Gordon Hollingshead, a short subjects producer for Warner Bros., holds the all-time record for collecting the most awards. He picked up two last March to bring his total to 11.

Town Smithy Still Busy Despite Machine Age

CAPAC, Mich. (UP)—Sparks still fly and the anvil still rings from the blows of the village blacksmith in Capac, despite the mechanized age in farming.

The community blacksmith shop here is one of the few remaining in the area but its owner, 48-year-old Richard Krause, says it's far from dying a lingering death.

"Sometimes it seems I have more work than I can take care of," Mr. Krause said. "Farmers from 50 miles or more away bring their work to me."

Most of the horses which the smithy shoes are prized items used in pulling contests and animals exhibited at fairs.

Ready for Anything

MARIETTA, O. (UP)—John Gordon, 68, arrested for shoplifting, told police he turned to stealing in order to go to Florida for the winter. Among his lost, police found a dozen pairs of fur lined gloves.

He's for Safety

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (UP)—An 88-year-old retired jeweler, figuring his chances of living to an "old age" depends on his neighbors' safety-mindedness, has launched a one-man safety campaign. Instead of answering his telephone with "hello," he says "safety always."

100 Meteor Craters

Over 100 craters, made by meteorites that struck the earth, have so far been identified.

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DARKNESS AT NOON
NEW YORK CRITICS' PRIZE PLAY
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